

GUNDOG BREEDS ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND

CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

SATURDAY 9th November 2019

I was privileged to judge at this prestigious show, and I thank the officers and committee for not only the smooth running of the show, but also the hospitality that was shown. Because I was not travelling back that night, I had the chance to watch BIS and the other finals, which was very special.

Thanks must also go to my two hard working stewards, who were so efficient and helpful.

I thought the quality in both dogs and bitches was high, making some decisions very difficult. Of course, breeds will evolve and change over many years according to different influences, but some exaggerations have crept in; rear angulation occasionally did not balance with front, and I was disappointed with some fronts which were rather wide, with poor shoulder placement. You can see a dog with correct well laid shoulders, front, and overall balanced angulation. It all 'fits together' so well and results in smooth, flowing movement, which should be a joy to watch. There were some lovely heads, not overdone, with no wide skulls. I thought one or two heads were a bit narrow in skull, however. Tails were good, with some neat short ones; not ropey and long.

Thank you to all the exhibitors for a truly wonderful entry.

I therefore was looking for a well constructed, balanced dog, which moved well and presented true Pointer characteristics. I wasn't looking for a special 'type', and I was pleased to say I had all colours in my entry.

VETERAN DOG (2)

This was a case of needing two red cards. Privileged to judge these two champions.

1st Watkins and Davies' ShCh Hurwyn Law N Order JW

This dog presented a stunning outline, with a series of graceful curves. He has a certain elegance about him and is so very sound on the move, with short, lashing tail. Head is masculine but not overdone, and he just oozes quality. This dog was close up for a res CC

2nd Evans and Pavey's ShCh Diamond in the Rough JW

Another beautiful dog which must always be considered for top honours. Showing and moving well for nine years. I particularly liked his depth of brisket and strong quarters. Just preferred outline of 1 today and had to give way to the slightly younger veteran in movement.

MINOR PUPPY DOG (3,1ab)

1st Gordon and Howarth's Hawkfield Jolly

Super promising 7-month puppy with excellent conformation and balanced angulation. Masculine head with gentle expression and with enough stop for age. Tail well set and moved quite steadily for age. Very nice puppy

2nd Welch's Sweet Dreams by Hookwood

Another promising puppy with good substance and body strength. Again, a good tailset and outline, and moved quite powerfully. Just preferred head of 1 at the moment and front needs to develop. Much to like about him.

PUPPY DOG (0) No Entries

JUNIOR DOG (3,2ab)

1st Henshaw's Sharnphilly Vice Versa with Peteshe

Alone and slightly unsettled, but I really liked him. He has the most beautiful eye and soft expression yet keeping his masculinity. I was thrilled when I went over him. He is a quality dog, with balanced angulation, short, well set on tail, neat oval feet, and moved soundly. When settled this dog should trouble the best.

YEARLING DOG (6,2ab)

1st Oddie's Sharnphilly Boondoggle Litter brother to Vice Versa and displayed balance and sound movement, although a little stronger behind to front. Another beautiful head, very mature, with that gentle expression and just enough stop. Handled so well and brought out the best in him. Challenged hard by his litter brother.

2nd Henshaw's Sharnphilly Vice Versa with Petesche

3rd Jamieson, Macara and Blackburn-Bennett's Kanix Peri Peri with Glenfinnan

GRADUATE DOG (8,3ab)

1st Barker's Ragus Let's Get Moving at Flinthill

What an outstanding young dog! I loved his quality and 'type' and he is so balanced in conformation all through. He is just right for size and oozes quality in his beautiful head; correct width of skull, pronounced occiput, well defined stop. A true Pointer head! Considered him for top honours. Just needs to mature.

2nd Gerrard's Carmandine Count On Me

Well placed in this good class because of his soundness and very strong, sound movement. Was a little heavy in body, but possesses a masculine, balanced head. Lovely outline with graceful curves, and neat oval feet.

3rd Stokes' Moenfair Dances The Moon into Guanabara JW

POST GRADUATE DOG (8,1ab)

1 O'Neill's Tenshilling Biscuits JW

A lovely sound, free moving dog; most attractive and stood out in this class. He is so balanced all through, with good, but not overdone angulation, good depth of brisket, strong muscular hindquarters, short, neat tail and the best feet so far. Head could do with a little more strength, but it is masculine and possesses a soft expression.

2nd Langford's Fydal Cortege of Papermill

Really liked the head on this one. Had that extra bit of quality in shape and make, with a lot of work and very soft expression. Again, good body shape, deep brisket, and balanced angulation. Short, neat tail. Moved soundly. Did well in another quality class.

3rd Bell and Maddox's Luneville Dazzling Diamond at Owlspoint JW

LIMIT DOG (8,1ab) Still the quality of dogs kept coming.

1st Philo's Fydal Caprio at Salmonist JW ShCM

Litter brother to Cortege and he too possess the most beautiful of heads. It is almost too difficult to express the quality in the head properties that render one to say '*it is just stunning*'. Beautiful soft expression and bright well positioned eyes. He also is well made throughout and moved well. Certainly, a strong challenger for the RCC and unlucky to come across some other super dogs. He will get to the top.

2nd Watkins and Davies' Ansona Alladin. This dog really made me smile. He was so lively and simply flowed around the ring. Beautiful 'type'. One of the best movers of the day and could change places with 1. Again, keen but soft expression, good balanced body, neat tail. Loved him also.

3rd Blackburn-Bennett's Kanix Obi at Stargang

OPEN DOG (8) A class littered with champions and CC winners.

1st O'Neill's Chesterhope Thrill Of T'Chase

I was always taught to look at the dog as a whole and then evaluate him. Looking at this dog, one can only say he is very special, and has all the attributes that an outstanding dog needs. He has a special something in his presence and bearing that puts him above the rest.

Of course, he has a classic Pointer head, and he is just so balanced but never overdone. He pulled all the stops out today and I was delighted to award him CC BOB and then to see him go on to BIS. What a thrill for me!

2nd Macara, Jamieson and Blackburn-Bennett's Kanix Kingdom at Cromasaig

Another amazing dog, and I wish I had had two CCs. I couldn't believe what I was seeing when I watched these two dogs go around together. He was rangier than 1 and slightly preferred balance of 1. However, he too has a masculine head with correct amount of stop, plenty of work and balanced foreface. His movement demonstrates his sound conformation. I'm sure he will join the parade of champions soon.

3rd Rayner, Spinks and Pringle's Freebreeze Over The Top at Spinray

VETERAN BITCH (4, 1ab) 3 lovely ladies!

1st O'Neill's Tenshilling Viva Las Vegas JW. Really feminine head with bright, kind eye and soft expression. She really powered round the ring and demonstrated her soundness and good angulation, defying her 9 years. Short, well set tail and good topline. A lovely bitch. Can't believe she hasn't got her title

2nd Smith's ShCh Fydal Ava. The prettiest of bitches, with that special work that gives her an amazing expression. Feminine in every way, from her flowing topline to her very short, neat tail. She moved well, but had to give way to the strength and soundness of 1.

3rd Hewitt's Sunhouse As You like It

MINOR PUPPY BITCH (1)

1st Gordon's Hawkfield Happy

This little lady will go to the top. Her breeder must be so thrilled to have really 'got it right', She is the most appealing puppy bitch I have seen for a long time. she has the sweetest of heads and her balance is good for her age. She has just the right angulation and moved so freely and soundly. BPIB and I believe she won the minor puppy stakes.

PUPPY BITCH (4 1ab) 3 different puppies

1st Gerrard's Chesterhope C'Mon Over to Carmandine Lovely puppy with a really beautiful head, well proportioned and with soft expressive eyes. she has an excellent topline and good front and moved very well. Hope she has done all her growing. I'm sure she will do well.

2nd Welch's Hookwood Cupid Heavier built bitch with good body properties. Very strong in movement and full of personality. Sweet head but needs a lot more work and time to develop. another nice puppy though.

3rd Westron's Aurichalcum Glentaisie

JUNIOR BITCH (3)

1st Tibbs' Raigmore Worth The Wait. So much to like about this young bitch. She has the sweetest of heads with enough stop, and soft, well developed lip, and bright, gentle eyes. Loved her fine ears and elegant neck and good topline. Should do really well.

2nd Booth's Ragus Go Truly at Lundgarth Lovely outline to this bitch and quality in body proportions. Very balanced and quite mature for age, well laid shoulders and front just right in width. Would have preferred a little more width in skull, but a promising bitch.

3rd Findlay's Chamelia Lagertha

YEARLING BITCH (2) This presented me a real headache.

1st Dyer, Oddie and Cole's Sharnphilly Serendipity

2nd Welch, Maber and Hazeltine's Sharnphilly Toggi JW

I liked both these quality bitches, but they were different in several ways. Both moved very well, and both were well made. Serendipity has a beautiful head with a very gentle expression. I just preferred this to Toggi's head which is a little narrower. I did prefer the outline of Toggi and she is a little higher on the leg but 1 just moved out with a bit more verve. She is really exciting to watch.

GRADUATE BITCH (5)

1st Hinton's Fleurfield Morning Glory and quite glorious she is. What a simply classic mouth-watering head with dark eye and so much work! Her outline is stunning, and she has a certain air of quality about her. She is well balanced, and this showed in her movement. Just needs a bit more maturity, but she is first class.

2nd Wilkinson's Stocksfell Seldom Seen. Very close up to winner in most ways. Another really quality bitch with a stunning outline. Slightly more mature than 1 and with a well-developed strong body with correct front and balanced bend of stifle. Another one which should do really well.

3rd Rayner, Spinks and Pringle Gartarry All That Jazz

POST GRADUATE BITCH (4,2ab)

1st Hinton and Jones' Alcazar Affair with Amore. This bitch was in real contention for a res CC. She too has a classic head, oozing with quality. Quite a strong bitch but very balanced and moved with such smooth, driving action and elegance. Especially liked her arched neck and good topline. Top class in every way.

2nd Stokes' Hawkfield Castaspell over Guanabara JW. Liked this bitch very much, particularly her outline. She is a little narrow in front, but generally is well angulated and moved well. Another good head with correct proportions and presented a pleasing picture.

LIMIT BITCH (9 2ab)

1st Nelis' Freebreeze Easy Virtue. A sound, classic style of bitch which I really liked. Not many like this today. She has a well-developed body with great depth, and balanced, not overdone angulation. She is strong and muscular but maintains her femininity. How nice to see correct oval feet with arched toes that could be used when working. Short neat tail. Most attractive head and expression, but again not overdone. She moved calmly and smoothly and really won me over to be awarded the res CC

2nd Blackburn-Bennett and Macara's Kanix Naughty Nancy

Pushed 1 very hard and another top-class bitch. Everything to like about this bitch, from her stunning head to her long and sloping, well laid shoulders and well-turned stifles. She certainly drove round the ring and used her tail on the move. Certainly exhibited a series of graceful curves. Another contender for top honours today.

3rd Blowers' Fydal Blown Away to Deadaway

OPEN BITCH (6) Some gorgeous bitches.

1st McGilp's ShCh Ridanflight Ruby Tuesday at Forthbourne This is another Pointer that just 'has it all' and a bit more to spare. She is another one that you have to admire and say she has something special in her make up that gives her elegance and poise that is seldom seen. Today she too pulled out all the stops and displayed her great qualities both standing and moving. Pleased to award her the CC and she and the dog were breathtaking in their lap of honour.

2nd Hazeltine's AM Ch Bookstor Fabello Kinky Boots (imp USA). Pushed 1 very hard, and I am sure she will do very well in this country. Pretty head with enough dish, very balanced throughout with short tail. Her front is just right, and she looks a picture when stacked. Shown so well and very promising.

3rd Blackburn-Bennett and Macara's ShCh Kanix Petunia at Stargang

JANET DRAKE - Judge